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January 31, 2003

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TWB-204 Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation

<u>In the Matter of Review of Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent</u>
<u>Local Exchange Carriers and Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Local Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket Nos. 01-338; 96-98; 98-147</u>

<u>In the Matter of Appropriate Framework for Broadband Access to the Internet</u> Over Wireline Facilities, CC Docket Nos. 02-33; 95-20; 98-10

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Yesterday, David Dorman, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of AT&T, James Cicconi, General Counsel and Executive Vice President of AT&T, Leonard Cali, Vice President – Law & Director Federal Government Affairs, and I met with Commissioner Michael Copps and Jordan Goldstein, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Copps, to discuss matters related to the referenced proceedings. During the course of those discussions, we explained AT&T's position on the necessity of requiring the unbundling of all network elements, including local switching, until the significant economic impairments that AT&T has identified in the record of the Triennial Review are addressed and eliminated. The process of identifying those impairments and whether they have been removed can only be conducted on a market-by-market basis and cannot be determined in a national proceeding. Rather, state commissions must be left with the authority to conduct that granular analysis based upon local facts and conditions in accordance with the dictates of the *USTA* decision. We reiterated that the Commission here find on a nationwide basis that carriers are impaired without access to all UNEs

previously identified without limitations such as the ones that exist in the switching and combination areas.

In addition, we emphasized the importance of maintaining unbundling obligations on incumbent providers based upon the services the CLECs seek to offer over those facilities rather than the services the ILEC chooses to offer over a facility. We also underscored the importance of preserving CLEC access to ILEC loop facilities, and identified operational and cost barriers to competition that would result if CLECs were relegated to copper facilities as ILECs introduce additional fiber into existing loop plant. We argued that it is essential for the Commission to preserve competition in the residential broadband marketplace. We also stated that the evidence demonstrated the continued requirement for carriers to obtain access to elements in order to provide competitive services to business customers.

The positions expressed in the meeting for each of these areas were consistent with those contained in the Comments, Reply Comments and ex parte filings previously made in the aforementioned dockets. One electronic copy of this Notice is being submitted for each of the referenced proceedings in accordance with the Commission's rules.

Sincerely,
Robert W. Brump.

Commissioner Michael Copps cc:

Jordan Goldstein